10th August 1929]

A.—The attention of the hon. Member is invited to rule 3 of the rules framed by the High Court and published on pages 1—3 of the Supplement to Part II of the *Fort St. George Gazette*, dated 30th April 1929. Under the above rule, persons who are actually officiating as priests or ministers of their religion are exempt from service as jurors. There are no assessors in the High Court.

As regards Bench Magistrates, there are at present twenty Ministers of the Church serving as Bench Magistrates in this Presidency but no information is available as to the number of Hindu priests, Mullas and Moulvis serving in that capacity.

Irrigation

277 *Q.*—Subadar-Major S. A. Nanjappa Bahadur: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that a big boulder has slipped on the water course in the Sheveroy Hills and blocked the water which was previously flowing into Salem through Tirumani Muttar river, and that the water is now flowing through the Vannar river and goes to the other districts; and

(*b*) if so, what steps the Government propose to take to remove the obstruction?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) A report has been called for.

[For further unstarred questions, please see pages 503–504 infra.]

STARRED QUESTIONS

Depressed Classes

Number of Adi-Dravida children attending labour schools.

*278 *Q.*—Mr. A. B. Shetty: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) which sub-sects of the Adi-Dravidas are attending the labour schools in South Kanara;

(*b*) what number of children of each of these classes are now in the labour schools; and

(*c*) whether any difficulty is experienced in making children of higher and lower classes among these people attend the same school and, if so, what steps have been taken to overcome such difficulties?

A.—(*a*), (*b*) & (*c*) The Government have no information.

Police

Shadowing of M.L.C.'s by the Police.

*279 *Q.*—Mr. G. Harisarvottama Rao: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether he has examined the question if Members of the Legislative Council may be shadowed by the Police while in Madras for other purposes than to attend the Legislative Council;

(*b*) whether he has equally examined the question as to whether it is not necessary that Legislative Council Members should be free of embarrassment and surveillance while touring in their own constituencies to carry on duties as representatives of their electorate ; and

(*c*) what instructions he proposes to issue or has issued in these matters?

A.—(*a*), (*b*) & (*c*) The Government are not aware that there is any shadowing, embarrassment or surveillance such as is referred to in the question. If the hon. Member will adduce definite instances, the Government will then be able to examine the question.

Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO :—" May I ask whether the Government have issued instructions to the Police that Members of the Legislative Council need not be shadowed, or embarrassed or subjected to surveillance ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" No instructions have been issued."

Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO :—" May I know if they are prepared to issue such instructions ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :— " There is no necessity for issuing such instructions."

Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO :—" May I ask if the Government will be pleased to issue instructions that the Police should make a reference to the Government before they shadow Members of Legislative Councils ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :— " There is no necessity for issuing such instructions."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" May I know what is the shadowing or embarrassment or surveillance to which Members of Legislative Councils are subject, which is not referred to in the question ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :— " The hon. Member must be able to give me information."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—' The answer says :—' There is no shadowing, embarrassment or surveillance such as is referred to in the question.' I want to know definitely from the Government whether there is any shadowing, embarrassment or some other thing which is not referred to in the question and if so, what they are ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :— " There is no information so far as we are concerned."

Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO :—" May I know from the hon. the Home Member whether head constables when they act as station-house officers have the power of sanctioning shadowing of Members of Legislative Councils ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" It must be ordered by the Superintendent of Police."

Arrest of Mr. Manoranjan Gupta at Bezwada.

*280 *Q.*—Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA : Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) what the offence was for which Manoranjan Gupta, who was arrested by the Madras Police on the 12th March at Bezwada, was charged